



ERRIER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*K. Errier*

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

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CHARLES HAGENBACH, M.B., B.S., (LOND.) L.M.S.S.A.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Dated 1st July, 1938.



# To the Kerrier Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the Year ending 31st December, 1937.

## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area Covers	....	....	90,989 acres.
Population 1937 (mid)	....	....	18,460
No. of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937)			6,305
Rateable Value	....	....	£61,627
Sum represented by a penny rate			£239 : 12 : 2

The chief industry is Agriculture, with the Tourist Traffic very important and increasing yearly.

There is some Fishing on the Coast, Tin Mining in Germoe and Wendron, Quarrying in Wendron.

## Vital Statistics.

<b>Live Births :—</b>	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate ....	267	131	133
Illegitimate ....	13	9	4

This gives a Birth Rate of 15.0 (England and Wales 14.9)

**Still-Births :—**There were 7 Still-births (all legitimate) giving a rate of 0.26 (England and Wales 0.60)

**Deaths :—**There were 274 Deaths (122 Male, 152 Female), giving a Death Rate of 14.3 (England and Wales 12.4).

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis, but there was one death from other puerperal causes.

Death rate of Infants under one year :—11 died, all legitimate, this gives a rate of 39 (England and Wales 58).

All these infants were either premature or seriously debilitated at birth.

There were 32 Deaths from Cancer, none from Measles, one from Whooping Cough and none from Diarrhoea under the age of 2.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

## General Provision of Health Services in the Area :—

The Public Health Officers of the Council are :—  
Charles Hagenbach, M.B., B.S., Medical Officer of Health.  
R. J. Wearne, M.S.I.A., Sanitary and Housing Inspector.  
F. Jackett, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector.  
J. T. Blewett, Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

## Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological material submitted by Practitioners practicing in the area is examined by the Redruth Clinical Laboratory at the Council's expense.

Use is also made of the Pathological Department of the Royal Cornwall Infirmary at Truro.

## Ambulance Facilities.

The only Ambulances in the area are those owned and maintained by the St. John Ambulance Association which does excellent and reliable voluntary work. A difficulty sometimes arises as there are no facilities for the transport of infectious cases.

## Home Nursing.

This is carried out by the various District Nursing Associations and the work is of a high standard.

There are no Treatment Centres, Clinics or Hospitals in the area.



### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

**Water :—**Improvements have been made at Mawnan Smith by increasing the supply.

A new well has been sunk at Halwin, Wendron.

A new well has been sunk and pump fitted at Yellow Wort, Wendron.

A new well has been sunk and pump provided at Mawgan.

The well at Greenberry Downs, Germoe has been covered in and a pump fitted.

In Crowan further work has been done towards the provision of piped supplies at Nancegollan and at Leedstown.

In Breage a Scheme for a piped supply for Keneggy has had further consideration.

Work has gone throughout the year in an endeavour to find a suitable source for a piped supply for the Lizard.

**Drainage and Sewerage :—**The scheme for drainage of Mullion has been completed and is working satisfactorily.

**Rivers and Streams :—**Pollution continues, but is rather less.

Measures have been taken in several places to prevent pollution by dumping of refuse.

The reduction of mining activity has also lessened pollution.

**Closet Accommodation :—**The conservancy system is still widely used in this rural area, but is being steadily reduced.

**Public Cleansing :—**Further extension of areas of collection has been made.

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

No. of visits and Inspections.

Ordinary Inspections	....	....	....	8,316
House Inspections	....	....	....	228
Re-Inspections	...	....	....	93
Slaughter-houses	....	....	....	382
Bakehouses	....	....	....	27
Offensive Trades	....	....	....	9
Food Shops, etc.	....	....	....	116
Farms, Dairies and Cowsheds	....	....	....	593
Factories and Workshops	....	....	....	88
Butchers Vans	....	....	....	239
Rat Nuisances	....	....	....	44
Work in Progress	....	....	....	763
Interviews with Owners and Builders	....	....	....	651
Visits re Infectious Diseases	....	....	....	22
No. of Rooms fumigated and Sprayed	....	....	....	21
Complaints received and attended to	....	....	....	185
No. of Carcases Inspected	...	....	....	7,725
No. of Plans received and approved	....	....	....	171
No. of New Houses completed	....	....	....	112
No. of Houses re-drained	....	....	....	32
No. of Drains tested with water and smoke	....	....	....	437
New Pail Closets provided	....	....	....	213
New Water Closets built	....	....	....	33
Cess Pits cleansed	....	....	....	29
Public Pumps repaired	....	....	....	18
Wells cleansed and repaired	....	....	....	14
No. of Carcases seized and condemned	....	....	....	43

**Shops :—**No action under the Shops Act, 1934, has been found necessary.

**Smoke Abatement :—**No nuisance ever occurs.

**Swimming Baths and Pools :—**There are none in the Area.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs :—**No action has been found necessary.

**Schools.** Further efforts have been made to obtain improvement in Water Supply and Sanitary Condition at a number of Elementary Schools where it is seriously defective. Unfortunately there has been no response to these efforts.





## Housing.

### 1. *Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year :—*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ....	228
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ....	476
(2) (a)	Number of Dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 :— ...	nil.
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose : ...	nil.
(3)	Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ....	19
(4)	Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ....	31

### 2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notice :—*

	Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ....	31
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### 3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

#### (a)—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1)	Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ....	nil.
(2)	Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners ....	nil.
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ....	nil.

#### (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1)	Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ....	14
(2)	Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice.	
(a)	By Owners ....	9
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ....	none.

#### (c)—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made :— ...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders :— ...	nil

#### (d)—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made :— ...	nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit :— ...	nil

## 4. Housing Act 1936.

## Part IV.

## Overcrowding.

(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	47
(11)	Number of families dwelling therein ....	55
(111)	Number of persons dwelling therein ....	323
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ....	6
(c)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ....	16
	Number of persons concerned in such cases ....	89

No cases have occurred of houses having again become overcrowded after the overcrowding had been abated.

112 New Houses were erected during the year, of which 34 were erected by the Council.

171 Plans were passed for new houses, additions, etc.

27 houses were reconditioned under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

**Milk.** There are numerous dairies in the district. The practice is rapidly increasing of sending the milk produced on the farms to Milk Factories for treatment and distribution. Samples are tested frequently at the Factories and the County Council also maintains a staff for control of the conditions under which milk is produced. In addition to this the Inspectors have made numerous collections of samples and the standard of purity has steadily improved.





<b>Meat.</b>	Inspections of Slaughter-houses	....	....	....	....	382
	Inspections of Butchers Vans	....	....	....	....	239
	Number of Carcases inspected	....	....	....	....	7,725
	Number of Carcases seized and condemned	....	....	....	....	43

Details are not available of the different kinds of carcases, nor of the individual diseases.

#### Infectious Diseases—Prevelance and Control.

Incidence has been about the same, only sporadic cases have arisen. No further progress has been made towards provision of adequate Isolation Hospital accommodation.

The Council supplies practitioners with anti-diphtheritic serum, also with material for artificial immunisation against scarlet fever and diphtheria, free of charge for patients residing in the area.

#### Notifiable Disease during the Year 1937.

	Total Cases notified.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	—	—
Scarlet Fever	3	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—
Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—
Pneumonia	3	1
Erysipeias	5	—

#### Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken.

#### Tuberculosis.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

#### New Cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age Periods.			New Cases				Deaths.			
			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	....	....	4	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
25—	....	....	4	2	1	1	1	4	—	1
35—	....	....	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
45—	....	....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—	....	....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	....	....	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	....	....	14	5	2	1	5	4	1	1

Three cases died un-notified during the year.

(Signed),

CHARLES HAGENBACH,

M.B., B.S., (Lond.) L.M.S.S.A.,

Medical Officer of Health.

R. J. WEARNE, M.S.I.A.,

F. JACKETT, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.

} Sanitary

} Inspectors.

